## LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

**LS 6564 NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 16, 2002

BILL NUMBER: HB 1419 BILL AMENDED:

**SUBJECT:** Exotic fish.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Budak

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

 $\overline{\underline{X}}$  DEDICATED FEDERAL

Summary of Legislation: The bill prohibits the possession or release of certain exotic fish.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

## **Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** The bill would add possession or release of exotic fish to the prohibitions in IC 14-22-9. Under current law, violation of IC 14-22-9 is punishable by a Class C misdemeanor.

If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund and the state General Fund would increase. The maximum fine for a Class C misdemeanor is \$500. Criminal fines are deposited in the Common School Fund. If the case is filed in a circuit, superior, or county court, 70% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed and collected when a guilty verdict is entered would be deposited in the state General Fund. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 55% of the fee would be deposited in the state General Fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** A Class C misdemeanor is punishable by up to 60 days in jail. The average daily cost to incarcerate a prisoner in a county jail is approximately \$44.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources: (1) The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive

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3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. (2) A \$3 fee would be assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county law enforcement continuing education fund. (3) A \$2 jury fee is assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county user fee fund to supplement the compensation of jury members.

## **State Agencies Affected:**

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** 

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